

# Canine Courtesy



**How you and your dog can ensure your status as respected members of your community:**

- Clean up after your dog, whether in your yard or in a public place. People take pride in a clean community.
- Train your dog to avoid excessive barking. Barking dogs can become a nuisance to the neighborhood. There are many devices that can help (i.e. Citronella Spray Collars).
- Keep your dog on a leash when walking in a public area. People appreciate well-mannered dogs who are under control. In addition, the leash law requires your pet to be on a leash whenever it is taken off of your property.
- Make sure your dog does not run loose in the neighborhood. It is dangerous for the dog and the community. For example, loose dogs may be hit by passing cars, fight with other animals, bite someone, be stolen, run away, and so on. Your pet is safest when it is at home with you either inside or in a securely fenced yard.
- Teach your dog to accept friendly strangers such as neighbors and delivery people. No one likes to be greeted by a noisy, snarling dog. Obedience training classes are a **MUST** for all dogs.
- Keep your dog clean and well-groomed. Your pet will thank you for helping it feel and look great. People also appreciate dogs who are kept healthy and disease free.
- Take the necessary precautions to ensure your dog does no harm to your neighbor's gardens or property. This will make for a better friendship and save you money.
- Confine your dogs to prevent unwanted litters. Better yet, make sure that your pets are spayed and neutered. There are already too many homeless animals in the world. If you allow your pet to breed you are adding to the already enormous problem of pet overpopulation because even if you are able to find homes for your puppies or kittens, those are homes that could have gone to homeless puppies and kittens that currently reside at an animal shelter or humane society.



San Bernardino County  
Animal Care & Control Program  
**(800) 472-5609**